

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9-11 and 13-19 are pending in this application.

Please consider the previous amendment filed on September 13, 2005 in addition to these remarks.

The Applicants appreciate that Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9-11, and 13-18 are indicated as being allowable.

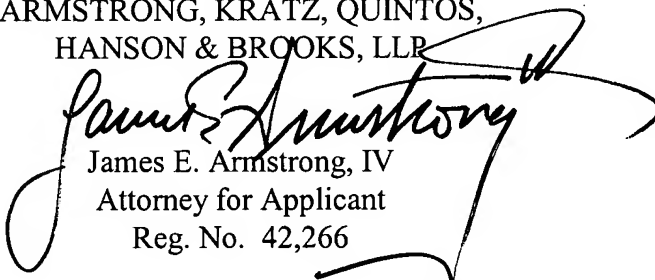
As far as a potential interference of USP 6,793,984 with Claim 18, the filing date of the reference is June 2, 2002 with a priority date of June 7, 2001. Because international filing date of the present application is September 10, 1999, USP 6,793,984 is predated and not in interference with Claim 18.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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